

claims, characterized in that the recording of the speckle patterns is done by holography.

14. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the characteristics of the optical part of the reader are adjustable and that the positioning error, if any, of the object is corrected while tending to reduce its measurement error.

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- 15. The method as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the "zero" position of the reader having been determined, the reader is positioned according to coordinates drawn at random and the speckle image obtained is compared with the image which ought theoretically to be obtained.
- 16. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that information identifying the object of another nature is recorded in addition to the speckle images.
- 17. The method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that the identification information is contained on the surface or in the interior of the object.
- 18. The method as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that the identification information is borne by one at least of the following supports: magnetic track, 30 electronic chip, optical storage area, bar code.
 - 19. A device for the optical authentication and identification of objects, characterized in that it comprises: an optical recording device with laser source (2, 17), a storage device and an optical reading device (1, 10) with laser source (2), parameters of these optical devices being modifiable.
 - 20. The device as claimed in claim 19, characterized

in that the modifiable parameters are one at least of the following parameters: wavelength of the laser source, direction of emission of the laser beam, focusing of the laser beam, position of the laser 5 source, inclination and position of the object with respect to the laser beam.